(c) whether the family members of the persons who died in Amarnath tragedy have been paid ex-gratia amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government are thinking of making all arrangements to make this pilgrimage not only safe and pleasant but also attrative for the tourists; and

(f) if so, the steps taken in this regard or are contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (f). Dr. Nitish Kumar Sen Gupta, Enquiry Officer appointed to investigate into Amarnath Yatra Tragedy and suggest measures to ensure proper and adequate arrangements to meet such eventualities in future is yet to submit his report. The Government, however, have issued elaborate directions to the concerned State Governments for disbursement of ex-gratia relief to relatives of deceased pilgrims through District Collectors who are the nearest Government functionaries for aggrieved relatives.

[English]

Performance of ICAR

634. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the annual budget of I.C.A.R. is rupees 800 crore;

(b) whether despite this, the farming community is neither convinced, nor impressed with the performance of Council;

(c) if so, whether the Government propose to evaluate the working results of the Council vis-a-vis benefits to the farming community of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The President, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has constituted Social Audit Committee for some of the important research programmes for evaluating the benefits of these technologies to the farming community.

Performance of Drugs, Chemicals and Fertilizer Units in Maharashtra

635. SHRI ANANT GUDHE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of number of PSUs in Drugs, Chemicals and Fertilizer sector in Maharashtra is gradually deteriorating aver the past 5-10 years for want of adequate financial support and wrong policies of the Government;

(b) if so, furnish the details of performance profile of Public sector Undertakings in Maharashtra, Undertaking-wise for the past five years, year-wise vis-a-vis target set and achieved in terms of standard indicators with reasons for lower performance;

(c) details of comprehensive action plan for revival/ modernisation/expansion/new projects/diversification/ upgradation of the PSUs in Maharashtra; and

(d) present status of the proposals and implications thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Performance of Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., (HAL) Pune, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited, (RCFL) Bombay and Maharashtra Antibiotics and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., (MAPL) Nagpur in the last 2-3 years has not been satisfactory. RCFL has planned various modernisation, upgradation expansion and diversification schemes involving an investment of about Rs. 400 crores. In compliance with the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, MAPL has made a reference to the BIFR for determination of the measures which shall be adopted with respect to the company. HAL has prepared an action plan for revival involving better capacity utilisation and marketing efforts, improved inventory control systems, sale of surplus land and rationalisation of labour force.

Inadequate Security Arrangements at Tis Hazari Courts

636. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Tis Hazari Courts which have been both national and international focus are totally lacking in the adequate security arrangements;

(b) whether the Asia's largest lower courts, which are frequented by about one lakh people every day, have become the 'soft target' for the anti-socials as well as terrorists;

(c) whether only when any important politician appears in court, the policy concentrate on the particular court only while others remain ignored; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). A Police Post with a strength of 27 police personnel is located in Tis Hazari Court premises to deal with normal law and order situation. It is as a